GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1623
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2007
TREATMENT FOR CLEFT LIP PALATE DEFECT
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 2.5 million children are suffering for cleft lip;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether any medical facilities are available in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the measures taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) to (e): No large studies have been carried out in India to establish the prevalence of cleft lip. However, as per rough estimates, the incidence of cleft lip and palate is approximately 1 per 700 to 1000 children. Considering the population of the country, it is estimated that approximately 1.5 million children are having cleft lip and palate.

The facilities for management of such deformities required surgical interventions and these are available both in public and private hospitals in the country. More than 1500 plastic surgeons are available to operate the cleft lip and palate children in the country. Such facilities are available at Central Government Institutions, namely Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, New Delhi; Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi; Kalavati Saran Children hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi; AIIMS, New Delhi; PGIMER, Chandigarh and JIPMER, Pondicherry.